

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently Amended) An improved font, comprising:  
a halftone cell including a plurality of original pixels; and  
~~an at least one auxiliary pixel replacing substituting for one of the plurality of original pixels of the halftone cell to improve edge displacement or halo problems in the printing of the halftone cell.~~
2. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the auxiliary pixel comprises a "black" auxiliary pixel.
3. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the auxiliary pixel comprises a "white" auxiliary pixel.
4. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the halftone cell is a clustered dot type.
5. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the halftone cell is a dispersed dot type.
6. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 4, wherein the clustered cell is a compact dot type.
7. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 4, wherein the clustered cell is a spiral-dot type.

8. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the halftone cell is a stochastic type.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for improving the printing of an image, said method comprising:

receiving a source image comprising original pixel data; and  
processing the source image original pixel data with a halftone cell  
comprising including embedded auxiliary pixels therein to improve edge  
displacement or halo problems in the printing of the image.

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10. (Currently Amended) The method for improving the printing of an electrostatic image of claim 9, wherein the step of processing includes using halftoneshalftone cells of a cluster dot type.

11. (Currently Amended) The method for improving the printing of an electrostatic image of claim 9, wherein the step of processing includes using halftone cellshalftones of a dispersed dot type.

12. (Currently Amended) The method for improving the printing of an electrostatic image of claim 9, wherein the step of processing includes using halftone cellshalftones of a stochastic type.

13. (Currently Amended) In a digital imaging system, a method for optimizing a rendition of a document image, comprising:

receiving a representation of the document image; and  
processing the document image to form a halftone image with a  
halftone cell comprising including therein embedded auxiliary pixels to improve  
the rendition of the document image.

14. (Original) The digital imaging system of claim 13, wherein the step of processing comprises forming the halftone image using a processing system including a digital front end.

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15. (Currently Amended) The digital imaging system of claim 14, wherein the step of forming uses a cluster dot type halftone cell.

16. (Currently Amended) The digital imaging system of claim 14, wherein the step of forming uses a dispersed dot type halftone cell.

17. (Currently Amended) The digital imaging system of claim 14, wherein the step of forming uses a stochastic type halftone cell.

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